Message Text

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16

ACTION ITFE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INSE-00 FBIE-00 SSO-00 DHA-02 ORM-01 /023 W

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O 020433Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3197

UNCLAS SINGAPORE 3351

FOR IATF JULIA TAFT, JERE BROH-KAHN AND VISA OFFICE JULIO AIRAS FROM MCMANAWAY

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SREF VS SN

SUBJ: VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ABOARD SS DEFENDER

REF: SINGAPORE 3161

- 1. THE REFERENCED TELEGRAM IS A REPEAT OF SINGAPORE 2228 WHICH TRANSMITTED ON MAY 26 THE NAMES OF 69 REFUGEES PICKED UP BY THE US VESSEL DEFENDER. THE CABLE WENT ASTRAY IN THE VISA FALCON CLEARANCE SYSTEM AND WE ASKED SINGAPORE ON JULY 19 TO RESUBMIT THE NAMES WHICH THEY DID ON JULY 23.
- 2. THIS CASE HAS TAKEN MUCH TOO LONG THROUGH NO ONE'S PARTICULAR FAULT. IT IS POSING A PARTICULAR PROBLEM FOR THE EMBASSY SINCE IT MADE AN EARLY COMMITMENT, UPON IATF AUTHORIZATION, TO THE GOS, IN ORDER TO GET THE PEOPLE OFF THE VESSEL.
- 3. REQUEST THESE CLEARANCES BE OBTAINED AND TRANSMITTED TO EMBASSY SINGAPORE WITHIN TWO WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT OF THIS MESSAGE.

ALSO REQUEST A SPECIAL EFFORT BE MADE TO COMPLETE ALL OUTSTANDING CASES FROM SINGAPORE (2341, 3178, 2699-MAI VAN THUONG)
WITHIN THE NEXT WORKING WEEK. GENERAL STATUS REPORT SEPTEL.
ICEM FLIGHT FOR 8 AUGUST CARRYING REFUGEES OUT OF MALAYSIA WILL UNCLASSIFIED

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ALSO PICK UP REFUGEES HERE. CURRENTLY THAT WILL BE ONLY 42

PEOPLE LEAVING AVAILABLE SEATS ON THE AIRCRAFT. IF THESE CLEARANCES RECEIVED IN TIME, THEY WILL ALSO MAKE THIS FLIGHT. GIVEN LONG OVERDUE STATUS THIS PARTICULAR GROUP REQUEST SPECIAL EFFORT BE MADE.

4. IT IS APPARENT THAT FOR SOME REASON GENERAL CLEARANCES SITUATION HERE WORSE THAN ELSEWHERE WITH MUCH SLOWER THAN NORMAL RESPONSE TIME FROM WASHINGTON. HOLDRIDGE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

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Subject: VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ABOARD SS DEFENDER TAGS: SREF, ACOM, VS, SN To: STATE

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